

TOP SECRET

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Washington, D.C. 20505

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9 APR 1979

Honorable Malcolm Wallop
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Wallop:

On 27 November 1978 I responded to your request for information on how we were emphasizing the expression of dissenting views in our intelligence estimates and analyses. I hoped to have had an opportunity to discuss this with you in person, but in the meantime I would like to provide an additional illustration of what we are doing in this regard.

Enclosed is an example of a new type of effort we are making in this direction. NIE 11-14-79 describes the Warsaw Pact forces opposite NATO. Immediately following the opening section on "Key Judgments," we have a section on "Issues". In this there is a synopsis of 22 principal areas of analytic difference in the NIE itself. As you can see, these synopses then refer to the place in the Estimate where the differences of opinion are outlined in greater detail. I am also enclosing an example of such an amplification. This is a section in the report which describes the difference of opinion as to whether the Soviets intend to attempt to sever our sea lines of communication between the United States and Europe.

In short, by cataloging these areas of difference at the beginning of the Estimate as well as highlighting the points of difference within the text rather than in footnotes, I hope we are bringing additional focus onto the importance of explicating different views in the course of our analyses.

I'd be most happy to discuss this with you at any time.

Yours sincerely,

/s/ Stansfield Turner

STANSFIELD TURNER

Enclosure

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Director of
Central
Intelligence

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Warsaw Pact Forces Opposite NATO

National Intelligence Estimate
Volume I—Summary Estimate

Top Secret

NIE 11-14-79

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